

THE KEY TO OPEN,

Heaven-Gate.

O R,

A ready Path to lead to

H E A V E N.

Written and Printed for the benefit of all true Christians, to read, hear and make good use of, before it be too late.

And therefore I advise every Man, and every women to observe and give good heed to what is spoken in this little Book, and they shall be sure to finde sweetnesse, and happinesse in this world, and eternall joys in the world to come, through the Might, Merits, and Mercies of Jesus Christ; who saith, *Aske and you shall have, seeke, and you shall finde, knock and it shall be opened unto you.*

Written by Laurence Price.

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A Key to Open
Heaven-Gate.

Or,
 A ready way to lead men to Heaven.

Here followeth good and sound Directions to set Men in the ready way to Heaven; which way if they mistake, they are never like to come there.



Dear and beloved Christians, I would have you thus much to understand, that all those that have a desire to goe to Heaven, must well and wisely endeavour themselves to follow this Path-way.

As

First

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First, you must truly and unfeignedly labour to serue God, and obey his Commandments which is a duty that ought to be done without any grudgings, murmurs, or delays; for he that is alive to day, may be dead before to morrow: and then it will be too late to look after a way that they neuer sought for in their life time: and therefore I advise you all (good Christians) to seek the Lord while he may be found, for he is a God of truth of Justice, of Peace, of Mercy, of Love and such a one as would have all Men and woman to be saved.

Secondly, here is another duty to be performed by all Men that will find the ready way to Heauen: as your brother is your neighbor, even so is your neighbour is your brother, & therefore ought every man and woman to love, cherish, and comfort each other, and to live in peace and unity one with another, and not to wrangle, brabble, fight, scold, and go to Law, until they have undone one another, for they that do such things are gone far out of the way to Heauen. Remember therefore what our Saviour Christ saith in the Gospel. A new

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Commandment give I unto you, see that you love one another, for if you love not your neighbour whom you see every day how can you love God whom you never saw, therefore consider and take heed in time what you do : he that hateth his neighbour, hateth his brother, and he that hateth his brother hateth God, and he that hateth God, will never find the way to Heaven and therefore I desire all them that are called by the name of Christians, to shew themselves like Christians, laying aside all hatred, spight, envy, malice, lying, flandering, backbiting, hypocrisie, and dissimulation, and withall to break such bread as you would have broken ; and likewise to do unto all men as you would they should do unto you. This be sure is the readiest way for to please God, and the nearest way to Heaven : Yet more then this is to be done before, you come to your journeyes end : You must repent you of all your former iniquities; you must be good to them y^e have done evil to you : and must forgive them their trespasses, as you look to be forgiven at the hands of God. And so farre must your mindes and your hearts

be given to quietness, that you must not so much as to let the sun go down while you are in wrath, For vengeance is mine saith the Lord, and I will repay it.

In the next place, every christian ought at all times very early and late, to pray unto the Lord, that he will add a blessing to their endeavours, and the better to be imployed, let them follow after Gods Preachers, and heare them Preach and Teach, that are both able and willing to declare the word of God unto them, and so by degrees they shall find the mercies of the Lord redoubled unto them, and thereby they shall be brought to ripeness of understanding, whereby to know and distinguish between good and bad, which may be great furtherance to them in the way to Heaven.

True knowledge is of such an excellent vertue that it is sufficient to bring us acquainted with the principall things that are to be had in this life, and after this life ended, it shall bring our Soules into everlasting happiness.

True knowledge wil make you understand that God the Father Created us, that God the Son redeemed us, and that

God

God the holy Ghost sanctified us, & pre-
serveth all those that faithfully believe
that our Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ
suffered death upon the Crosse, to save
our souls from the tyranny of the devil,
and from the torments of Hell; as you
may read in the 1. Chap. of the Gospel
written by St. Matthew, where it is said,
Blessed be your eyes for they see, and your
ears for they hear, and your hearts for they
understand.

And to be brief, true knowledge and un-
derstanding may very well be termed a
Key to open the gates of Heaven. Then
what man or woman will be so wilfully
blind as to neglect the seeking for such an
excellent virtue; yet there are some, and
too many in these sinful & wicked times,
that are so carelesse and regardless, that
they had rather chuse to follow the vain
delights and pleasures of this wicked
world, than to seek for the redemption
of their souls, and the joyes of Heaven
hereafter, whom our Saviour Christ
bought and paid for with his most pre-
cious blood.

And some there are likewise, that bear a
shew of Godliness, & yet they cannot or

will not spare an hour in a day to hear a good Sermon, or to serve God in. Others their are, that do utterly deny, and as it were to make a scoff of the Scriptures, and the word of God; but I wish that all such persons may speedily amend their lives, lest at the last day the righteous Judge of all the world, Iesus Christ shall say unto them, Depart from me ye workers of iniquity.

But now beloved Christians I would have you to consider and think on this that y day of vengeance is near at hand, and every soul shall stand at the Barr of Arignment before the righteous Judge to tender up an account of al their deeds and actions good and evil: and then shall the good be severed from the bad; and the one sort with joy and triumph be received into everlasting happiness, & the rest be cast into utter darkness, where is nothing else to be heard or seen, but weeping, howling, and gnashing of teeth.

Whereover I would have you to consider that at the generall judgement there are none to be excused from comming to their answers, and every one shall be forced to appear in their persons; the
rich

rich and the poore, the King and the Beggar, the strong and the weak, the bound and the free; all must come whether they will or no: for God hath no respect of persons: and at that great and notable day of y^e Lord our God, there is no delays to be made, there shall be no Lawyers to plead a cause for another man or woman: for he shall be sure to have work enough to do of his own, neither shall there be any bribes accepted of, therefore looke wel about you, and prevent the wrath of the Judge while you may; and provoke not God to Anger, lest your soules perish in displeasure.

Yet furthermore I would have you remember this, y^e as the Saints of Heaven are crowned with glory, and the wicked sent unto the gulph of misery, there is no returning from neither of the places, but where soever they are sent by the Judge, there they are to continue world without END. Oh! what a heavy sight will it be to the Wicked: when they shall see the godly entertained into Heaven among the glorious Saints and Angels of the Lord, and they themselves to be cast into utter darkness

ness for ever, where they shall never be-
hold the brightness of the Sun, nor the
glory of Christ again: alas dear friends
what a sad thing it is to think upon: but
ten thousand times worse to them that
shall suffer themselves to be banished
from the presence of Christ for ever.

Such cursed wretches as are here spo-
ken of, are them who have lost their way
to heaven, and can never find the Key to
open Heaven Gate withall.

The last thing that I have to put you in
mind of is, & every one should remember
his End, and think upon the day of his
death while he is alive on the Earth. To
this purpose the wise man Solomon hath
taught us our Lesson, and to the Wise;
when he saies, Remember thy end, and thy
Creator in the days of thy youth, as much
as if he said, Remember thy end to day,
to morrow, and the next day, & all the days
of our lives. And also that every night
before we sleepe, we make our peace with
God, by way of humble petition and
prayers unto his heavenly Majesty, that
he will be pleased that if we never lbe
to see the morrow morning, to forgive
all

all our sins & receive our soules into his
 heauenly Kingdom: if every one will
 make use of what is here set down, and
 constantly practice it in their liues and
 conuersations, they need not fear death
 let him come early or late, sleeping or
 waking, or what time soeuer it be, nei-
 ther can the gates of Hell. nor the power
 of Diabls preuail against them & haue
 found the right way to Heauen. And to
 conclude this point, let all & euer mean
 wel to their own soules, take good notice of
 what is said, it may be a means through
 Gods great mercy to bring them that are
 gon astray, in the right and perfect way
 to Heauen, where at the first entrance,
 our Saviour Iesus Christ will be ready
 to welcome us in with these sweet and
 comfortable grætings and imbrace-
 ments, with words as followeth: Come ye
 blessed Children of my Father, receive a
 Crown and Kingdom of Glory, which was
 prepared for you at the beginning. To
 which kingdome, The Lord in his good
 time bring us all. There shall the blessed
 soules of & righteous behold the celestiall
 Saints of the Lord, & be partakers with
 them of the euerlasting felicity which is
 un-

unspeakable, then shall they that mourned here, be converted there. And they that suffered reproachfull words, abusefull slanders, shamfull disgraces, and persecutions for Christ and the Gospels sake shall have a full reward, and sweet satisfaction in the Sanctuary of the most high God, & al those which have been wronged on Earth, shall be righted in Heaven, which consideration may very wel serbe to comfort all such as have been or are any ways afflicted, derided, or oppressed, and falsly accused in this present life; since there is a Crown of glory laid up for them in the life to come, then let all true and faithfull Beliebers be valiant-hearted, and never be dismayd for all that can be done against them by the world the flesh, and the Devill.

And for your further instruction, I would wish you all to be well advised, and to follow the Doctrine and Counsell of the Apostle St. Paul, who biddeth, you to put on the whole armour of God, Having your loynes girt about with the truth, putting on the brest-plate of righteousness, and feet shod with the preparation of the Gospel of peace, taking up the shield

of

of faith, and helmet of sa'vation, And being thus armed you need not fear all the Enemies that ever can assault or come against you; as you may read in the 6 Chapt. of Ephes. 14, 15, 16, 17, verses, how to come by this Armour, and how to use it, you must learn that of our Captain and Leader Jesus Christ, who suffered many persecutions when he was upon earth, as hunger, cold, banishment, scoons and taunts, whippings, & buffetings, spitting on the face, and at last nailed on the Cross, and pierced to the heart with a bloody spear; in all which afflictions he was never seen to look upon Enemies with a frowning Eye, nor to give them so much as an angry word, but at the very point of death he took all things patiently, and prayed for his enemies, saying, Father forgive them, they know not what they do. And when he fetcht his last gasp at the yielding up of the ghost, he cryed with a loud voice, Father into thy hands I commit my Spirit.

Thus was our Saviour Jesus Christ made a sufferer for our sakes, & all those torments did he undergo while he was on earth, to teach us the way to Heaven,
and

and this hath he purchased with his most
 dear and precious blood; to save us from
 the torments of Hell; and after that
 Christ had suffered the sharpness of death
 he ascended into heaven, where he hath
 made already intercession for all them
 that are his followers. And seeing that
 our Saviour hath led the way, why should
 not we be as willing to come to him: he
 hath promised he will never leave us nor
 forsake us, if we do not leave nor for-
 sake him: Therefore let us looke to our
 selves; if we will not find the way to
 Heaven, the fault is our own.

Therefore to finish up all, I once more
 desire you all, that you will never leave
 practising to find the way to Heaven.
 For blessed are they that continue to the
 END.



A PRATER.

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